

UNDERLYING STRUCTURAL PATTERNS IN NONFICTION TEXTS		
Pattern	Definition	
Categorical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presenting information in categories, often with subcategories, signaled by headings and sub-headings 	
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using language to provide details and form images so that readers can determine how something looks, moves, taste, smells, or feels 	
Sequence (Chronological)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describing a series of events in the order they happened in time (as in an historical account) 	
Sequence (Temporal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presenting a sequence of actions for doing something (a process that always happens in the same way) 	
Compare/Contrast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparing two ideas, events, or phenomena by showing how they are alike and different 	
Cause and Effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposing the reasons or explanations for various phenomena 	
Problem and Solution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying problems and hypothesizing solutions 	
Question and Answer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posing a question or a series of questions that are then answered; often used in sidebars or as headings 	
Combination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combining or embedding the above structural patterns within a text (almost all nonfiction texts use a combination of patterns) 	

Figure 10.6 Underlying structures in nonfiction texts